

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS AND MATERIALS

CONCRETE WITHOUT CEMENT.

Carpentry and building describes a kind of concrete without cement that is said to be in favor with Parisian architects. It is composed of eight parts of sand, gravel and pebbles, one part burnt and powdered common earth, one part of pulverized clinkers and cinders, and one and one-half parts of unslacked hydraulic lime. These materials are very thoroughly interspersed while dry into a homogeneous mixture, which is then worked up and well beaten. The result of this is a hard and solid mass, which sets almost immediately, becoming very strong in a few days. It may be made still stronger by addition of a small proportion—say one part—of cement. Among other constructions to which this material has been applied is named, as an example, a house 65 x 45 feet, three stories high, standing upon a terrace which has a retaining wall 200 feet long and 20 feet high. Every part of this structure was made of the hard, economical concrete, including foundations, cellar vaulting, retaining wall, and all exterior and interior walls, together with the cornices, moldings, string courses, balustrades and parapets. There was no bond iron used in the walls, and no wooden lintels, beams or posts were required. It is claimed for this material that it is not liable to crack or scale, while it is extremely cheap, as it can be made almost wholly from material to be found anywhere.

The quarry of the Toronto & Orillia Stone Quarry Co., Ltd., has recently changed hands. Mr. Ed. C. Wainwright, formerly secretary-treasurer of the company, is now the owner of this fine quarry, which is situated one mile north of Longford Station. The stone is popularly known as Longford stone. Mr. Wainwright intends devoting his whole attention to the quarry business, and will open an office in Toronto at an early date.

A good protection for wood against acids and superheated steam is said to be obtained by making a mixture of gypsum with half its weight of pulverized asbestos into a stiff paste with fresh ox blood. The wood must be coated when quite dry, and a second coat is applied, this mixed with a little boiled oil. When the second coat is perfectly dry the wood is very carefully steamed, to make the varnish set. The stuff is cheap, innocuous, and quite free from smell. Used for the insides of casks it has no effect upon liquids which may be placed in them.

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Correspondence invited.

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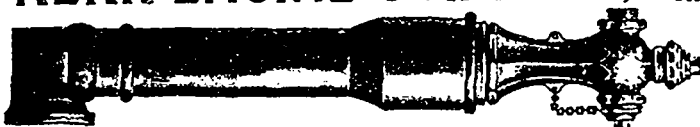
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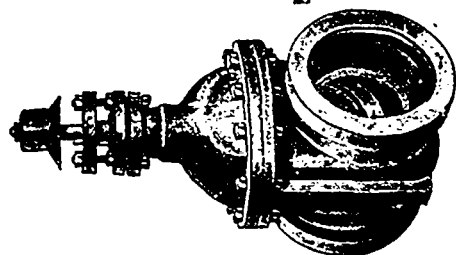
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